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BLUE JAY

Volume 70 Number 3 September 2012

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Cladonia arbuscula Bernard de Vrie

Stereocaulon tomentosum Bernard de Vrie

Blue Jay

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Front Cover: *Cladonia cristatella, Bernard de Vries*
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Blue Jay Index 2000 – 2009 (Volumes 58 - 67)

TERESA DOLMAN

Foreword

This 2000-2009 cumulative index is patterned on the last cumulative index (1990-1999). It is composed of two parts: an Author Index and a Subject Index. The location of every item referenced throughout both parts is given by the year of publication, followed by the page number and then the first letter of the month of issue (M/J/S/D). For example, *Additional Saskatchewan Sphinx Moth Records*, which begins on page 157 of the September 2001 issue, is indexed as 2001:157S. The page number given is, therefore, the first page of the article in which the indexed subject can be found. In contrast, the page number given for a photograph, drawing or map is the exact page on which the item will be found.

Under each author's or illustrator's name in the Author Index, sole-authored entries are listed first, in chronological order. Then, if applicable, multi-authored entries are listed, again chronologically. Finally, if the author has co-authored an article but is not the lead author, the lead author's name is listed at the end preceded by "See" to direct readers to the full entry which is given under the lead author's name.

In order to facilitate the search for an item in the Subject Index, all the major headings can be seen at a glance at the beginning of that section and all these headings appear in boldface type within the Subject Index. Two practices initiated in the last cumulative index are again followed in order to keep the Subject Index to a manageable length. Firstly, subspecies names are indexed only when the subspecies itself is at issue. Secondly, species presented in annotated lists are not indexed unless they are distinguished for reasons beyond their presence in the list. For the user of the index, this means that if you are looking for all references to, for example, Great Horned Owl, you should first look for that name under "Birds > Particular species" and then you should check the articles listed under "Birds > Counts, surveys & lists" for any reference to or listing of Great Horned Owl.

In the listings of "Particular species", the subheadings under each species' name reflect the salient aspects presented in the articles, such as Breeding, Behaviour, Distribution, Colour variant, etc. In many articles, however, it is the very presence of the species that is being remarked upon (for example, records of rare or uncommon species) in which case the term Occurrence is used. The subheading Drawing includes line drawings, watercolours and acrylic paintings.

Common names are used for butterflies and for vertebrates. Butterfly names follow *Butterflies of Canada* by Layberry *et al.* (1998); amphibian and reptile names follow *Scientific and Standard English Names of Amphibians and Reptiles of North America North of Mexico* by Crother *et al.* (2008); bird names follow *Check-list of North American Birds* by the American Ornithologists' Union (7th edition and up to the 53rd supplement); and mammal names follow *Mammal Species of the World* by Wilson and Reeder (2005). For vascular plants, algae, mosses, bacteria, fungi, lichens and all invertebrates other than butterflies, each species is indexed under its scientific name (with common name, if given by the author, in parentheses). When no scientific name was provided in *Blue Jay*, the species is indexed under the common name given by the author or illustrator. Unavoidably, this has led to instances where a single species may be listed in several ways. For example, *Quercus macrocarpa* is indexed under its scientific name and under Oak, Bur.

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Abbreviations that are used are: AB (Alberta), BC (British Columbia), CBC (Christmas Bird Count), CMC (Christmas Mammal Count), MB (Manitoba) and SK (Saskatchewan).

Anna Leighton performed the time-consuming task of checking all entries in the index against the original entries in *Blue Jay*. She caught many errors and had numerous suggestions to make the index more consistent in format and more readable – thank you, Anna! Of course, I take full responsibility for any errors that may remain.

Teresa Dolman

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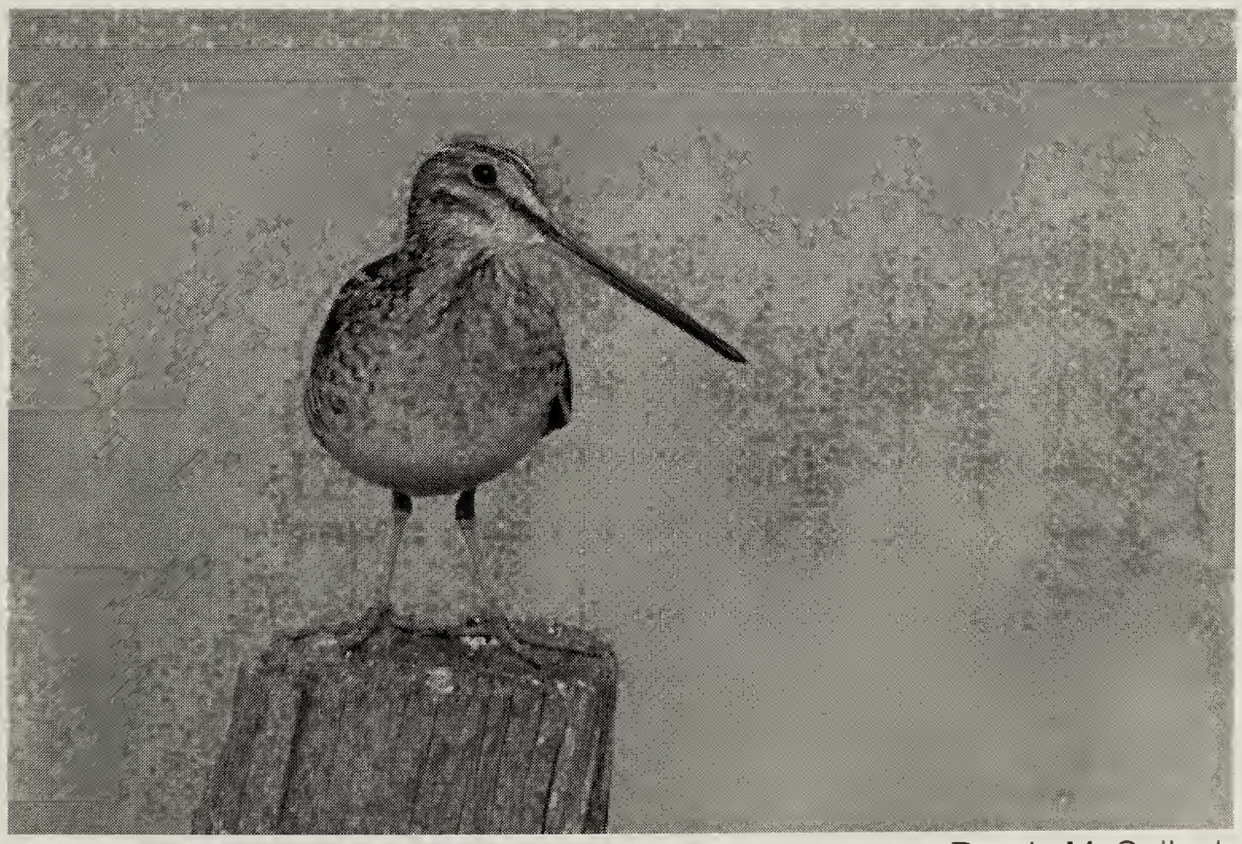


Common Snipe Randy McCulloch

PLANTS

FIRST RECORDED OCCURRENCE OF CREEPING MAHONIA (*BERBERIS REPENS* Lindley) IN SASKATCHEWAN

ALAN DODD, *Rangeland Conservation Service Ltd. #502, 2903 Kingsview Boulevard SE Airdrie, Alberta T4A 0C4*

Introduction

The first recorded population of creeping mahonia (*Berberis repens* Lindley) was observed in Saskatchewan. A single population was observed in Cypress Hills Inter-provincial Park (CHIP) - West Block in August 2011. The species was originally observed in 2002 at the same location but the discovery went unrecognized. This new population represents a significant extension of the known range of the species, as the closest known populations are in southwestern Alberta and central Montana. The discovery of creeping mahonia is a significant addition to the unique flora of the Cypress Hills.

Background

Cypress Hills

The Cypress Hills are centred on lat. 49 30' N, long. 110 W on the Canadian Great Plains, approximately 70 km north of the United States border. They extend for approximately 130 km along an east-west axis through southwestern Saskatchewan and southeastern Alberta. North-south, the Hills are typically only about 15 km wide, although they do reach a width of 25 km in places. In total, the Cypress Hills cover nearly 2600 km^2 of land.

CHIP is divided into three blocks: Elkwater in Alberta and the West and Centre blocks in Saskatchewan. The West Block is located adjacent to the Elkwater Block on the opposite side of the provincial boundary and approximately 16 km west of the Centre Block. The West Block covers approximately 13,880 hectares (34,300 acres) of land, and is located approximately 40 km southwest of the town of Maple Creek in Townships 7 and 8, Ranges 28 and 29 W3M.

The primary ecological factor differentiating the Cypress Upland from other ecoregions is elevation.[1] Highest elevations in the Hills are near Elkwater, Alberta and lowest near Eastend, Saskatchewan. Elevation ranges from approximately 1,463 m (4,810 feet) to 1,000 m (3,300 feet) between these two locations.

Elevation has dramatic effects on vegetation in the Cypress Upland. There are two main habitat types in the ecoregion: grassland and forest. Mixed grassland occurs at elevations between 775 m (2,550 feet) and 1,000 m (3,300 feet) on the north slope and between 850 m (2,800 feet) or 950 m (3,100 feet) (depending on location) and 1,050 m (3,450 feet) on the south slope.[1] Grassland at higher elevations is dominated by rough fescue (*Festuca campestris* and *F. hallii*). The reference community on the Loam ecosite (Dark Brown and Black Chernozemic soils) in the Cypress Upland is described as rough fescue (average cover = 30%).[2]

Forests are more prevalent in the west part of the Cypress Hills. Forest in the Cypress Hills occurs primarily on

north aspects as well as in some of the valleys on the plateau. In the West Block, lodgepole pine (*Pinus contorta*) and aspen (*Populus tremuloides*) are the dominant tree species, with lesser amounts of white spruce (*Picea glauca*) and balsam poplar (*Populus balsamifera*). Lodgepole pine reaches its greatest extent in the West Block, and occurs at elevations between 1,280 m (4,200 ft) to 1,465 m (4,800 ft).[3] Aspen forest is typically found at lower elevations immediately below lodgepole pine forests in the West Block, as well as in mixed stands with white spruce. White spruce is generally found in cool, moist habitats associated with springs as well as along Battle Creek.[3]

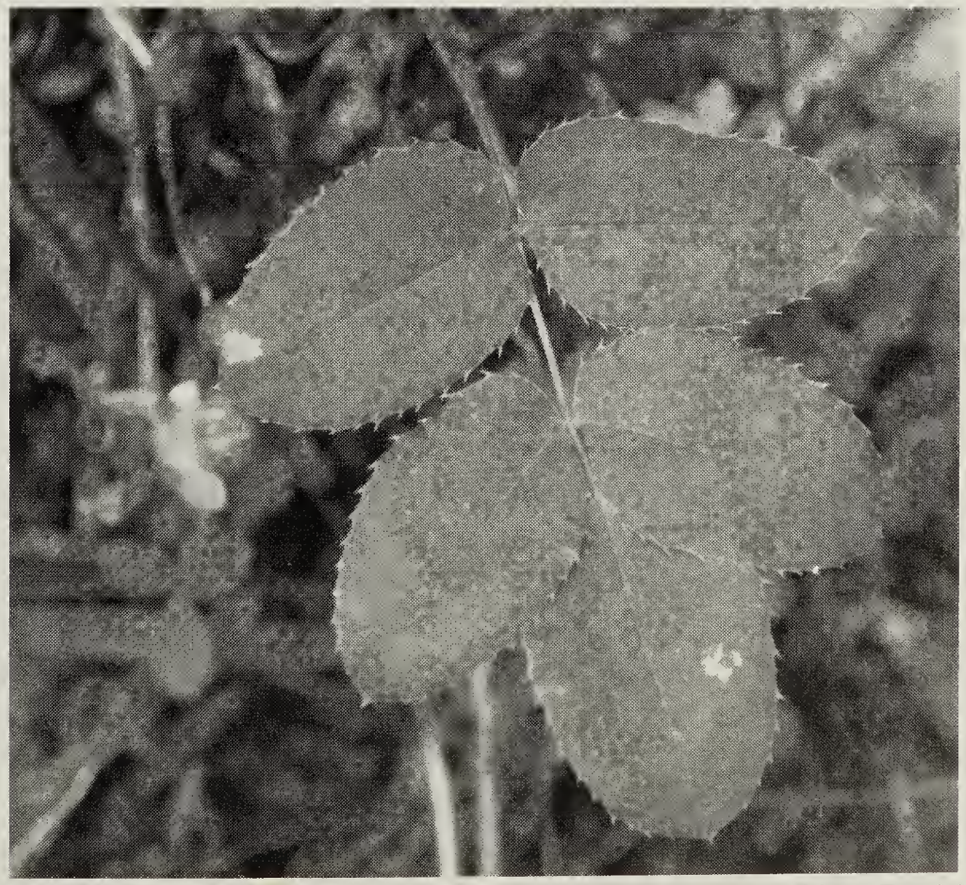
The forests of the Cypress Hills were originally described as boreal forest outliers[4] and boreal-cordilleran transition forests.[5] Other authors emphasized the Cordilleran influence.[3,6] The Cypress Hills are included in the Rocky Mountain Natural Region in Alberta[7,8,9,10] and the Cypress Upland Ecoregion in Saskatchewan, which is described as an outlier of the montane vegetation zone.[11]

Creeping Mahonia

Creeping mahonia is a member of the Berberidaceae family. It is an evergreen shrub 2 cm to 20 cm (60 cm) tall.[12] Its leaves are (3-) 5 to 7 foliolate with thin, flexible, usually dull and somewhat glaucous leaflets which have numerous spine-tipped teeth. The inflorescence is densely racemose with 25 to 50 flowers that produce blue berries. The species flowers from April to June.

The habitat of creeping mahonia is described as mountain woods,[13] forests from foothills to lower montane elevations,[14] open forest, shrub, and grassland,[12] and dry rocky slopes and open forests in the steppe and montane zones.[15]

Creeping mahonia has not been previously recorded in Saskatchewan (Enns pers. comm.).[16] Nature Serve lists creeping mahonia as growing in British Columbia, Alberta, and Ontario in Canada.[17] In Alberta, it occurs in the southwest part of the province from Waterton Lakes National Park in the south



Creeping Mahonia *Alan Dodd*

to the Crowsnest Pass in the north.[13] In British Columbia, it is described as common in the southeast and rare in the central and south-central parts of the province.[15] In the United States, creeping mahonia is found in 19 states, including the bordering states of Washington, Idaho, Montana, and North Dakota.[17] The closest known populations to the Cypress Hills are in the foothills of southwestern Alberta and in central Montana,[13,18] both of which are approximately 300 km from the observed Saskatchewan population.

Creeping mahonia is considered Secure (S5), Vulnerable (S3), and Exotic in British Columbia, Alberta, and Ontario, respectively.[17] Creeping mahonia is not ranked or under review (SNR/SU) in Washington and Idaho. It is listed as Secure in Montana and Imperiled (S2) in North Dakota.

Findings

Creeping mahonia was first discovered in CHIP - West Block in 2002 by RCS staff during a range inventory of the park, in which a number of transects were established in forest and grassland communities throughout the block. However, the significance of the discovery was not realized at the time. The species was observed along only one of fourteen forest transects established in 2002. The transect was located in a white spruce - aspen mixedwood forest community in the southeast part of the West Block.

During a range re-assessment of the West Block in 2011, creeping mahonia was observed along the same transect, but as in 2002, at none of the others. Approximately 30 plants were observed along the transect in 2011, although a detailed, systematic count was not conducted due to time constraints. A park closure due to fire hazard prevented a second visit to the park later in the season to conduct a detailed population count. Creeping mahonia occurred in two of the ten quadrats along the transect. The forest community was described as Healthy according to the Saskatchewan Range Health protocol.[19]

Plant species occurring in the same quadrat as creeping mahonia included smooth wild rye (*Elymus glaucus*), white-grained mountain rice grass (*Oryzopsis asperifolia*), wild white geranium (*Geranium richardsonii*), snakeroot (*Sanicula marilandica*), buckbrush (*Symphoricarpos occidentalis*), wild strawberry (*Fragaria virginiana*), veiny meadow rue (*Thalictrum venulosum*), western Canada violet (*Viola canadensis*), Lindley's aster (*Aster ciliolatus*), common pink wintergreen (*Pyrola asparifolia*), cream-colored vetchling (*Lathyrus ochroleucus*), and spreading sweet cicely (*Osmorhiza depauperata*). Smooth wild rye and wild white geranium are also considered rare in Saskatchewan.[20]

No flowers or berries were present on the creeping mahonia plants observed. However, the characteristic leaves make this species readily identifiable. Nevertheless, a specimen was collected and taken to the University of Calgary herbarium where its identification was confirmed by the assistant curator (Smith pers. comm.).

Interestingly, a leaf specimen collected of creeping mahonia by the author seemed to have more teeth than mentioned in the literature. The Flora of North America describes creeping mahonia leaflets as having 15 to 24 teeth.[12] However, The Flora of the Pacific Northwest describes creeping mahonia as having 15 to 43 teeth.[14] Teeth number is not mentioned in the Flora of Alberta.[13] The specimen collected in CHIP had between 38 and 48 teeth.

Discission

A number of botanical studies and inventories have been conducted in the Cypress Hills.[3,6,21] A number of range inventories and assessments that included a vegetation inventory component have also been completed in the Centre, West, and Elkwater blocks of CHIP.[22,23,24,25] The fact that creeping mahonia had not been observed prior to 2002 suggests that the species may be quite rare in the Cypress Hills. White spruce - aspen mixedwood forest is also limited in extent in the West Block. Assuming creeping mahonia favours this plant community type in the Cypress Hills, then this adds to the potential rarity of the species at this location. Moreover, the size of the creeping mahonia population observed was apparently quite small. All these factors suggest that future management planning in the park take into consideration any activity that could potentially impact the creeping mahonia population, including forestry, recreational, and livestock grazing activities.

Further surveys are necessary to determine the entire extent of creeping mahonia in the Cypress Hills. Because creeping mahonia was found in white spruce - aspen mixedwood forest, future surveys should be directed to these plant community types. A number of the fourteen transects surveyed by RCS were located in white spruce - aspen mixedwood forest. These stands were found in various locations throughout the south and west parts of the West Block.

As previously discussed, the closest known populations of creeping mahonia to the Cypress Hills population are in montane habitat in southwestern Alberta and central Montana. The Cypress Hills population thus represents a range extension of approximately 300 km. However, the Cypress Hills population is isolated from these other two populations due to the long distance and lack of montane habitat, and is thus an outlier. The occurrence of creeping mahonia in the Cypress Hills further supports the description of the flora as having a distinct Cordilleran influence. Genetic work is needed to determine if there are any differences to other populations.

Creeping mahonia is sometimes planted as an ornamental in xeriscape gardens. And, as previously discussed, it is found in Ontario as an exotic species. Thus, there exists the possibility that creeping mahonia was introduced into CHIP in recent years. However, this event seems unlikely as the creeping mahonia population observed in the park was located in a fairly remote area, away from any known trails. Most visitors to the park follow existing roads and trails, none of which passed through the community creeping mahonia was observed within.

Recent dispersal into the park by other means seems unlikely for several other reasons as well. As previously discussed, creeping mahonia produces blue berries, each of which contains several large seeds. The species is thus not adapted to long distance wind dispersal. Moreover, although the plant is sometimes consumed by wild ungulates, it is not a preferred food source.[26] Even if berries were consumed by an ungulate, the long distance from other known creeping mahonia populations argues against this type of dispersal. Dispersal by birds also seems unlikely, although not impossible, given when the berries develop (*i.e.*, mid-summer) and when the majority of birds migrate north (*i.e.*, April to May).

A far more likely explanation for the presence of creeping mahonia in the Cypress Hills is that it has been there for quite some time. The association of

creeping mahonia to other Cordilleran species is likely the key to the explanation of the species' presence in the Cypress Hills. But is its presence in the Cypress Hills an indication that the area was a refugium, or did the species arrive after the melting of the last continental ice sheet?

In a study of land snails in the Cypress Hills, it was argued that the lack of endemic species and proximity of the surrounding ice sheet during continental glaciation supported the conclusion that the Cypress Hills were not a refugium for pre-glacial biota.[27] Instead, the author concluded that the flora and fauna of the hills must have colonized from the southwest in the early post-glacial period. Other authors have pointed to the presence of rare alleles and distinctive cone and seed traits in lodgepole pine as possible evidence the Cypress Hills acted as a refugium.[28,29] However, recent research supports the conclusion that creeping mahonia and other Cordilleran species likely colonized the Cypress Hills during de-glaciation.

Recently developed paleovegetation zonal models suggest that Cordilleran forest expanded northward from the western United States during de-glaciation and was present in the Cypress Hills area approximately 14,000 years BP.[30] As the ice sheet moved north of the Cypress Hills, conditions in the area surrounding the hills became favourable for the development of a grassland ecosystem, which has remained the case ever since. Thus, colonization of Cordilleran vegetation after 14,000 years BP became increasingly unlikely. The aforementioned high elevation of the hills prevented them from becoming dominated by grassland, and could have allowed creeping mahonia and other Cordilleran species to persist to the present day.

A possible northward shift of creeping mahonia distribution following de-glaciation is also supported by recent research on the distribution of other disjunct plant species found in the Cypress Hills. For example, a study of the phylogeography of pine sap (*Monotropa hypopitys*), revealed the probability of glacial refugium in the western and eastern United States.[31] Pinesap's current disjunct distribution in the Cypress Hills is postulated to be the result of colonization north from the western United States during de-glaciation. Similarly, Engelmann spruce (*Picea engelmannii*), whose distribution in Canada is currently confined to the Rocky Mountain region in Alberta as well as parts of British Columbia, is found in the Cypress Hills in hybrids with white spruce. The presence of white spruce-Engelmann spruce hybrids in the Cypress Hills is argued to be the result of hybridization in its refugium in the Montana-Wyoming area followed by northward expansion of those hybrids with glacial retreat.[32]

Acknowledgements

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NATURE NOTES AND LETTERS

FIRST RECORD OF LICHENS FOR HASBALA LAKE, SASKATCHEWAN

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The purpose of this paper is to document 39 lichens, including 2 subspecies, 1 form, and 2 rare taxa for Hasbala Lake of Saskatchewan.

No earlier lichenological studies for Hasbala Lake (59 57 N 102 00 W) are known. A first detailed survey of the Hasbala Lake region ecosites, including lichens, was made by the Forest Ecosystem Classification Survey in 1997.[11] A subsequent botanical survey of the southwest Hasbala Lake region was made by de Vries[3] as a supplement to Argus.[1] During this survey a few lichens were observed and incorporated in this paper, denoted with an asterisk (*).[3]

Location of Hasbala Lake

Hasbala Lake lies well within the subarctic section of northeastern Saskatchewan and is part of the taiga ecozone, which supports open subarctic lichen woodlands with mixed forest-tundra.[6,7]

This ecozone is dominated by coniferous taiga vegetation. The predominant tree species is Black Spruce (*Picea mariana*) both in upland sites and in the very extensive poorly-drained peatlands where it commonly grows with tamarack (*Larix laricina)*. White Spruce (*Picea glauca*) is restricted to sheltered valley bottoms and lake shores. A minor broad-leaved component is found in some upland sites in the form of scattered White birch (*Betula papyrifera*). The area is also characterized by ericaceous shrubs and occasional Willow (*Salix*).

Lichen woodlands is the dominant forest type in the uplands, characterized by an open canopy structure and extensive mats of terricolous lichens, e.g. Reindeer lichens (*Cladonia)*, Foam lichens (*Stereocaulon)* and Iceland lichens (*Cetraria)* in order of dominance, partnered with a diverse assemblage of epiphytic lichens attached mainly to tree bark. Feather mosses (*Pleurizium schreiberi*) and (*Hylocomium splendens*) are also common in upland forests.

Lowland forests are characteristically very open with a predominant ground cover of Peatmoss (*Sphagnum*), and other bryophytes, although lichens are sometimes an important component of the ground and epiphytic flora in peatlands.[5]

As more sampling is done, the rate at which new species are acquired falls off, because all but the rarest species have been collected. [11]

Lichens Of Hasbala Lake

Each species have their scientific and common names followed by habitat, and geographic distribution. Nomenclature follows that of Esslinger [4], while distribution is that of Brodo et al. [2]

Terrestrial Lichens

Cetraria ericetorum Opiz, Iceland lichen . On earth in open woodlands. Circumpolar boreal and arctic-alpine. [9]

Cladonia amaurocraea (Flörke) Schaerer, Quill lichen. Forest floor. Circumpolar, arctic and boreal.

Cladonia arbuscula ssp. *mitis* (Sandst.) Ruoss, Yellow reindeer lichen, Open dry sandy soil. Circumpolar, arctic to temperate.

Cladonia borealis S. Stenroos, Boreal pixie-cup. Open xeric sandy soil. Circumpolar, low-arctic.

Cladonia botrytes (K.G. Hagen) Willd., Wooden soldiers. Decaying tree stump in Black Spruce forest. Circumpolar, boreal *Cladonia cariosa* (Ach.) Sprengel, Split-peg lichen. Open sandy soil. Circumpolar, arctic to temperate.

Cladonia cenotea (Ach.) Schaerer, Powdered funnel lichen. On earth of forest floor. Circumpolar in the northern hemisphere, low-arctic, boreal.

Cladonia chlorophaea (Flörke ex Sommerf.) Sprengel,* Mealy pixie-cup. Open xeric sandy soil. Circumpolar, boreal.

Cladonia coccifera (L.) Willd. Madame's pixie-cup. In open muskeg. Circumpolar, northern boreal, arctic

Cladonia coniocraea (Flörke) Sprengel Common powderhorn. Shaded Forest. Circumpolar, boreal to south temperate.

Cladonia cornuta (L.) Hoffm. ssp. *cornuta*, Bighorn cladonia. Open soil. Circumpolar, boreal, low-arctic.

Cladonia crispata (Ach.) Flotow var. *crispata,* Organ-pipe lichen. Open soil. Circumpolar, boreal, low-arctic.

Cladonia cristatella Tuck. ,British soldiers. Open forest location on soil. Boreal, temperate

Cladonia deformis (L.) Hoffm., Lesser sulphur-cup. On soil in open woodlands. Circumpolar, low arctic, boreal.

Cladonia fimbriata (L.) Fr.*, Trumpet lichen. On soil in open forest. Circumpolar, low-arctic, boreal.

Cladonia gracilis ssp. *turbinata* (Ach.) Ahti, Smooth cladonia. On exposed soil. Cosmopolitan, low-arctic, boreal, temperate.

Cladonia gracilis f. *floripara* (Flörke) Flörke, Smooth cladonia. On exposed soil. No geographic range known. Presumably that of the species. [8] (see later discussion).

Cladonia pleurota (Flörke) Schaerer.,Red-fruited pixie-cup On forest soil. Circumpolar, arctic, boreal.

Cladonia rangiferina (L.) F.H. Wigg., Grey reindeer lichen. Open dry sandy soil. Circumpolar, arctic to temperate.

Cladonia sulphurina (Michaux) Fr. ,Greater sulphur-cup On forest floor. Circumpolar, low arctic.

Cladonia uncialis (L.) F.H. Wigg., Thorn cladonia. On bare soil. Circumpolar, arctic, temperate.

Flavocetraria nivalis (L.) Karnefelt & Thell, Crinkled snow lichen. On earth with mosses in open location. Arctic-alpine, boreal.

Icmadophila ericetorum (L.) Zahlbr.,Candy lichen. Over mosses in forest. Circumpolar, boreal.

Peltigera aphthosa (L.) Willd., Common freckle pelt. On mossy ground in forest. Circumpolar, boreal.

Peltigera rufescens (Weiss) Humb.* , Field-dog lichen. On xeric sandy soil. Circumpolar, arctic, boreal

Stereocaulon paschale (L.) Hoffm., Easter lichen. On open soil. Circumpolar, arctic, boreal.

Stereocaulon tomentosum Fr.*, Woolly foam lichen. On open soil. Circumpolar, northern boreal.

Epiphytic Lichens

Bryoria lanestris (Ach.) Brodo and D. Hawksw., Brittle horsehair lichen. On Black Spruce branches. Circumpolar, but mainly a boreal species.

Bryoria nadvornikiana (Gyelnik) Brodo and D. Hawksw., Spiny grey horsehair lichen. On Black Spruce bark in muskeg. Southern edge of the tundra and a peripheral species for northern Saskatchewan. Probably circumpolar. (see later discussion).

Evernia mesomorpha Nyl., Boreal oakmoss lichen. On Black Spruce bark. Circumpolar, boreal, temperate.

Hypogymnia physodes (L.) Nyl., Monk's-hood lichen. On Black Spruce bark. Circumpolar, arctic, temperate.

Lecanora circumborealis Brodo and Vitik, Black-eyed rim-lichen. On Black Spruce branch. Circumpolar, boreal

Melanohalea olivacea (L.) O. Blanco et al.(*Melanelia olivacea*), Spotted camouflage lichen. On Black Spruce branch. Circumpolar, arctic, boreal.

Melanohalea septentrionalis (Lynge) O. Blanco et al.(*Melanelia septentrionalis*), Northern camouflage lichen. On Black spruce bark. Circumpolar, low arctic, northern boreal.

Parmeliopsis ambigua (Wulfen) Nyl., Green starburst lichen. On Black Spruce bark. Circumpolar in the boreal forest.

Parmneliopsis hyperopta (Ach.) Arnold, Gray starburst lichen. On Black Spruce bark. Circumpolar in the northern forest.
Tuckermannopsis americana (Sprengel) Hale, Fringed wrinkle-lichen. On Black Spruce bark. Low arctic, boreal forest.

Tuckermannopsis sepincola ((Ehrh.) Hale, Chestnut wrinkle-lichen. On Black Spruce bark. High arctic, northern boreal.
Vulpicida pinastri (Scop.) J.E. Mattsson and M.L. Lai, Powdered sunshine lichen. On Black Spruce bark. and as litter on forest floor. Circumpolar, arctic, boreal

Discussion

As no previous lichenological surveys are known for Hasbala Lake, prior to the 1997 forest ecosystem classification survey, the recorded lichens can be seen as new to its lichen flora. These lichens are common boreal forest species with a circumpolar and arctic to sub-arctic distribution pattern, e.g. belonging to the arctic element such as *Cladonia coccifera*[9] and the boreal element as *Melanohalea septentrionalis*.[2]

First Records For Hasbala Lake

Cladonia gracilis f. *floripara* (Flörke) Flörke. Only as a form of the species

on an exposed upper ridge of esker on mineral soil, among Black Spruce and *Cladonia gracilis* ssp. *turbinata*. The form has short podetia and cup-margins thickly set with a continuous ring of dark apothecia. However, one must be cautious in accepting such forms, as these could very well be genetically or environmentally caused. The form could be considered as rare for Saskatchewan. [8]

Second Record For Hasbala Lake

The occurrence of *Bryoria nadvornikiana* (Gyelnik) Brodo and D. Hawksw. Synonym: *Alectoria nadvornikiana* Gyelnik remains controversial. It was previously reported from this vicinity by Thomson [9] as new to northern Saskatchewan, and again recorded by Wright [10] on Black Spruce on a gravelly esker at Hasbala Lake.

The species is common in northern Europe, and documented for North America as low-subarctic peripheral reaching the north-central Saskatchewan and Northwest Territory's boundary and in eastern Canada.[2]

Comments

The presence of a significant arctic-subarctic element in the lichen flora of northeastern Saskatchewan is not surprising, since the surveyed area is part of the northwest transitional section of Rowe [7] with close proximity of open subarctic woodlands with a mixed forest-tundra vegetation and the majority of species have an arctic to low-arctic distribution pattern.

Summary

Thirty-nine taxa are new to the lichen flora of Hasbala Lake including two subspecies, and one form. Two species are reported as rare to Saskatchewan.

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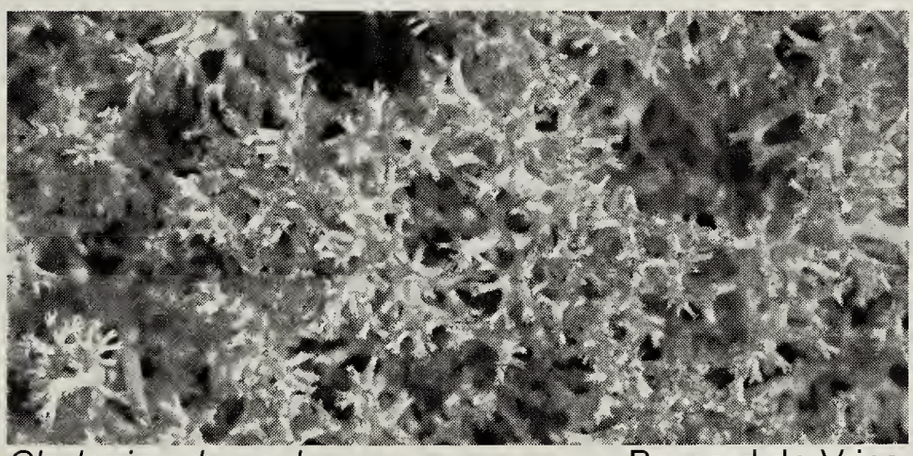
Cladonia cristatella Bernard de Vries
(see front cover for colour)

Vulpicida pinastri Bernard de Vries
(see inside back cover for colour)



Cladonia arbuscula Bernard de Vries
(see inside top - front cover for colour)

Stereocaulon tomentosum Bernard de Vries
(see inside bottom - front cover for colour)

MYSTERY PHOTO

September 2012 MYSTERY PHOTO

Myrna Townsend

See inside back cover for this and other colour images of this month's mystery photo. Can anyone explain what is illustrated in these photos?

Do you think you know what the mystery photo is? Send your answers to: ***bluejay@naturesask.ca*** *for a chance to win cool stuff!*

June 2012 MYSTERY PHOTO

The photo is of a sporophyll (fertile leaf) of a quillwort. Quillworts are submerged aquatic plants in the clubmoss phylum (Lycopodiophyta). Each quillwort plant superficially resembles a tuft of grass in shallow water of a lake. Quillworts are found throughout Canada. These plants reproduce by spores, not seeds. The photo shows some of the spores inside the sporangium at the base of the leaf. Such fertile leaves are often washed up onto beaches after storms. It is often the only way that we know that there are quillworts in a lake. They are told from grasses because they have the spoon shaped sporangium at the base of the leaf. *-Richard Staniforth*

The lucky NS who correctly identified the June Mystery Photo is Beth Dolmage, who will receive a prize from Nature Sask. Thanks to all who sent in answers for the mystery photo.

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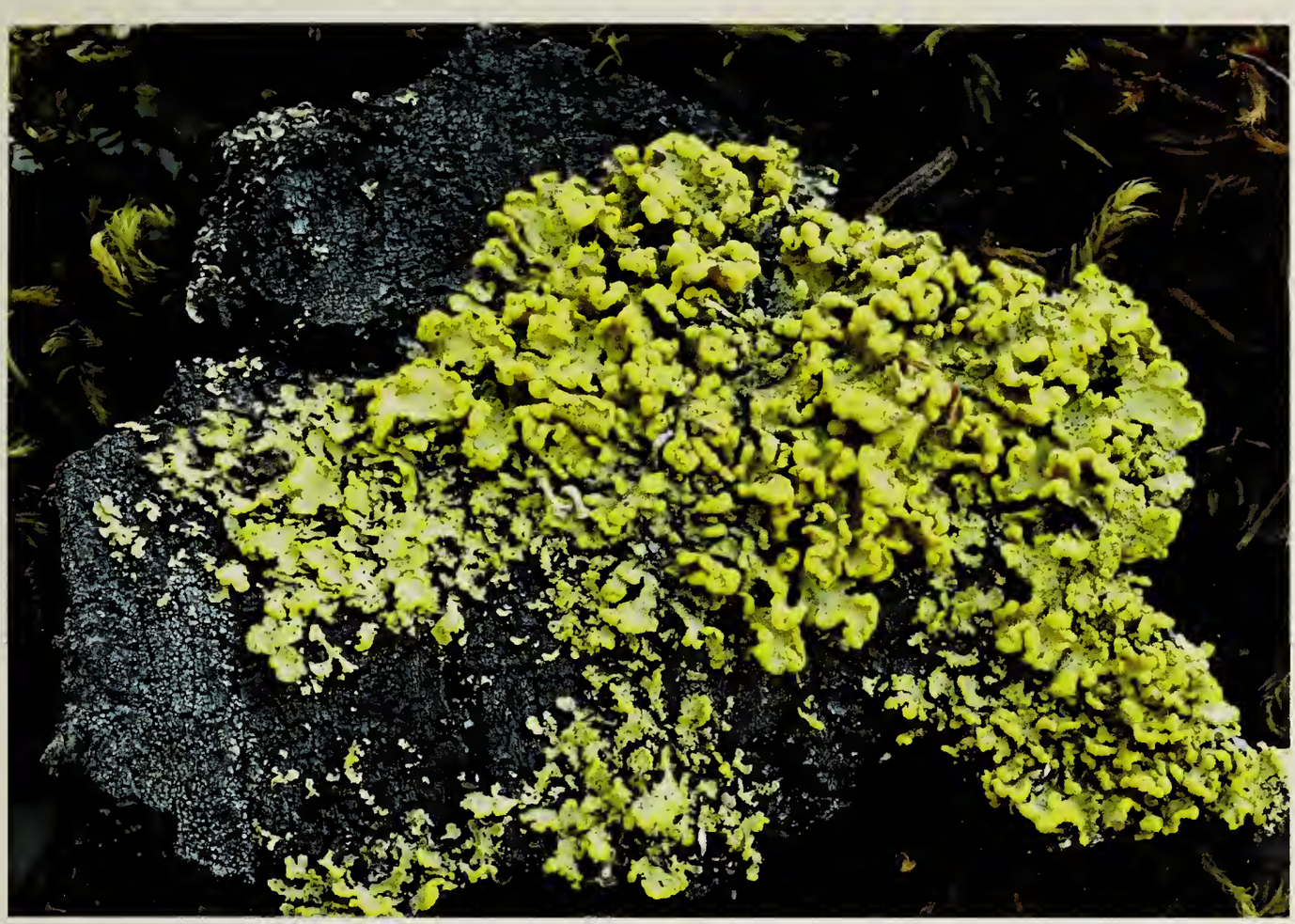

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